

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-9, 11, 12, 15-20, and 22-24 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S.P. 6,169,897 to Kariya (“Kariya”) and U.S.P. 6,202,023 to Hancock et al. (“Hancock”)

Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, and 22-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kariya and Hancock. Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the cited references.

A. Claim 1

As recited in claim 1, a controlling device controls a menu display to display predetermined fixed menu information. Also, when the menu information is updated, the menu controlling device controls the menu display to display updated menu information with the predetermined fixed menu information.

An illustrative, non-limiting embodiment of such features is shown in Figs. 3 and 4 of the present application. As shown in Fig. 3, a controlling device displays predetermined fixed menu information (*e.g.*, a “MY MENU” option and a “DEFAULT MENU” option). As shown in Fig. 4, if menu information is updated, the controlling device displays updated menu information (*e.g.*, a “TOKYO CAR NAVIGATION SHOW ’99” option) with the predetermined fixed menu information.

Since Kariya and Hancock (alone or in combination) do not suggest the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that the claim is patentable.

B. Claims 4, 5, 9, and 11

Since claims 4, 5, 9, and 11 depend upon claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

C. Claim 12

Since claim 12 contains features that are analogous to the features discussed above in conjunction with claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable for analogous reasons.

D. Claims 15, 16, and 20

Since claims 15, 16, and 20 depend upon claim 12, Applicants submit that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

E. Claim 22

Since claim 22 contains features that are analogous to the features discussed above in conjunction with claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 22 is patentable for analogous reasons.

F. Claims 23 and 24

Since claims 23 and 24 depend upon claim 1 or 12, Applicants submit that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kariya, Hancock, and U.S.P. 6,349,257 to Lui et al. (“Lui”)

Claims 6-8 and 17-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kariya, Hancock, and Liu. Since such claims depend upon claim 1 or 12, and since Lui does not cure the deficient teachings of Kariya and Hancock with respect to claims 1 and 12, Applicants submits that claims 6-8 and 17-19 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
U.S. Appln. No. 09/822,496

III. Newly added claims

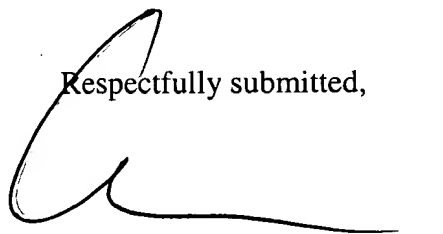
Applicants have added new claims 25-29 to provide more varied protection for the present invention.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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